

Meeting Summary
December 20, 2012

Members Present: Ernest Bland, Jessica Evans, Don Hague, Jon Lourie

Members Absent: Carmen Camacho, Tiffany A. Graham-Golden, Julie Statland, Mel Tull, Yuri Van Mierlo

Call to Order and Introductions: Mr. Ernest Bland, Chair called meeting to order at 3:45 p.m.

Lt. Elizabeth Hattenburg, MCPD 3rd District
Police Report:

- Large items are being left on the downtown streets. Investigations are underway to determine who is responsible for dumping (mattresses specifically).
- For added protection, officers have had a presence in the local schools since the Connecticut shooting incident. Today is the last day of those efforts. There were mixed responses from schools about police presence.
- Collaborating with DC Police for fingerprints on a suspect who robbed two females in DTSS and stole a vehicle.
- Thefts from vehicles are up. They always go up around this time of year because people are careless and leave belongings exposed in their vehicles.

Ernie Lundsford, Chief of Building Design & Construction & Senior Architect
Susanne Churchill, Dept. of General Services

Follow-up Discussion Re: County Facilities in SSUD/Library:

- The first week of January, Costello Construction (the winning low bidder and builder of the Civic Building) is expected to begin mobilizing machines to proceed with the Library project.
- David Costello spoke about the bid process and commitment to turn the lot into a beautiful library.
- Currently finishing up utility relocation work, and enclosing the site with a fence to block the view of construction.
- Project is expected to last 2 years, between November 2012 and December 2014.
- Pyramid Atlantic will be moving into the first two floors of library, and operate on its own system with separate venting, mechanics, and utilities.
- Library building details can be found online.
- Bus stop near front of the proposed bldg will be temporarily relocated further down Wayne St.
- The pedestrian bridge is no longer included as part of the project
- At this time, no additional information to report on the Transit Center, use of the old Police Station, or reuse of the old library.

Martine Combal & Jason Cross, Project Managers

Walter Reed Redevelopment:

- Provided background of BRAC (Base Realignment And Closure).
- This is the third largest project in the District, 66.5 acres, roughly \$650-700 million, over 2,500 jobs on an ongoing basis, with tens of thousands in projected revenue.
- Intent is that this will be a complementary project with what is occurring in downtown Silver Spring and main goal is to integrate the site with the community, providing a mix of uses and creating job/revenue opportunities.
- Residential units, ground floor retail, office space, and school space will be part of the project.
- WalterReedLRA.com – for more information on the project.

Yvette Freeman, Director of Operations

Silver Spring Urban District Report:

- SSUD & Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation received the NACO (National Association of Counties) Award for Weekender Program.
- Ms. Freeman discussed Pepco's program to either prune or remove trees located near power lines for safety and to mitigate power losses during storms.
- The Utility relocation project for Studio Plaza project will be presented at the next SSUDAC meeting.
- Ms. Freeman announced that due to pending development the SSUD needs to relocate the roll off dumpster currently located at Thayer Ave. & Fenton St.
- The MBT trail is expected to open soon.
- Ms. Freeman said the Thanksgiving Day parade was a success and ran more continuously since participants were not delayed at the main stage during TV commercial breaks, as done in the past.
- Ms. Freeman stated that there is limited green space for dogs to relieve themselves in the downtown area. Residential developers are allowing pets to stay competitive. Committee member Don Hague explained that developers are not required to create/provide space for pets to relieve themselves.

Reemberto Rodriguez, Director of Regional Service Center

Regional Center Report (Reemberto Rodriguez):

- Mr. Rodriguez discussed how all the transformation of south Silver Spring is welcomed and part of the main plan for downtown Silver Spring.
- Mr. Rodriguez requested feedback/responses to communications/updates that are sent out

Other Business

Studio Plaza:

- Several committee members provided a preview of a community meeting held in December regarding Studio Plaza. As it relates to the "public space" portion of the project, questions were raised about who will manage the space? Who can use it and when? If the public uses it, what are the parameters?

- Mr. Rodriguez stated these concerns have been, are currently, and will continue to be discussed. He also encouraged the committee members to submit suggestions about how this public space should be used.
- Mr. Bland confirmed that suggestions should be limited to ensuring that the public has access and can use the space.
- Mr. Bland read a letter received from Councilmember Ervin referencing the sector plan, which only references cosmetic changes and reduction of art-scape from the Plaza. In his opinion the letter process and the Council are to blame, not the developer.
- As a result of the discussion, it was again suggested that the Silver Spring CBD Sector Plan needs to be revisited and amended.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:39 PM